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## New man at The Company

A New CIA Deputy Director ~~Robert M. Gates~~ takes over a schizophrenic legacy. While the administration has been pushing the Reagan Doctrine, Mr. Gates's predecessor, John N. McMahon, has been opposing aid to the men carrying it out — members of the democratic resistance from Nicaragua to Angola to Afghanistan. Even Jimmy Carter rejected Mr. McMahon's advice, fired off in a classified memo just after the 1979 Soviet invasion, not to assist the Afghan *mujahideen*.

Mr. Gates seems perfect for the job. A crack Sovietologist, he has served as chief intelligence officer of the National Security Council and holds the trust of CIA Director William Casey, a defender of covert aid. But Mr. Gates faces a tough agenda:

- Jonas Savimbi's UNITA faces a determined enemy in Angola's Soviet-armed and Cuban-supported dictatorship. If Mr. Savimbi is overwhelmed, the Soviet Empire

will gain a prime base of subversion and conquest. A UNITA victory, on the other hand, might spark a wildfire of freedom across Africa, deciding the continent's fate for decades to come.

- The "contras" are bleeding to death in Nicaragua. If Congress approves President Reagan's \$100 million aid request, Mr. Gates will have to coordinate the effective distribution of guns and ammo and the destruction of the Communist Sandinista regime.

- The Afghan *mujahideen* badly need more anti-aircraft and anti-tank weapons to thwart Mikhail Gorbachev's next offensive, scheduled for some time after the spring thaw. Without such aid, it can only be a short time before the Red Army completes its genocidal conquest.

Clearly, Mr. Gates must not delay in restoring The Company's commitment to furthering the cause of freedom in the world.